Name Gavin, Hedrick, Zarkowsky Senior VPs; Aerospace Board also elects 5 vice presidents

Clint Towl, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Grumman Aerospace Corporation, announced on February 9, following a meeting of the Board, the election of three new senior vice presidents and five new vice presidents.

The senior vice presidents are Joe Gavin, director of Space Programs, Grant Hedrick, in charge of Product Engineering, and Bill Zarkowsky, responsible for aircraft programs.

New vice presidents are: Alex Alexandrovich, deputy director of Technical Operations; Tom Johnson, director of Product Manufacturing; John O'Brien, director of Resources; George Skurla, manager of Operations for Grumman at Kennedy Space Center; and Dr. Ralph Tripp, director of the Lunar Module Program.

The over-all responsibilities of each of these men remain as they were prior to their elevation to higher positions.

Space expert

Joseph G. Gavin Jr., now a Senior Vice President, was appointed Vice President of Grumman in 1962 and was given responsibility for directing the whole Lunar Excursion Module (now Lunar Module) Program.

Joe Gavin was an engineering officer in the Naval Reserve, working on Navy jets in Washington, before he came to Grumman. He had graduated from M.I.T. with a B.S. and M.S. in aeronautical engineering (honors group) in 1942.

He came to Grumman in 1946 as a design engineer on the XF9F-2, went to Preliminary Design in 1948, and was appointed project engineer on the F9F-6 in 1950. He moved to a similar assignment on the F11F and in 1956 became chief experimental project engineer. From 1957 to 1962 he was chief missile and space engineer.

Since October of 1968 Joe Gavin has been director of all Grumman Space Programs, including future manned and unmanned spacecraft. Last May he was elected to the Board of Directors of Grumman Aerospace Corporation.

C. W. Post College honored him last year, and the Aerospace Educational Council named him their Man of the Year in 1968.

Among his interests is the Harborfields Board of Education in Huntington, of which he is a former president. He is a member of the Educational Council of M.I.T. and the AIAA.

The Gavins live in Huntington. They have a married daughter, Tay, and two sons, Joseph G. III, graduate student at Columbia University, and Donald, studying at Wesleyan University.

Significant design contributions

Ira Grant Hedrick, director of Technical Operations, was elected Director of Grumman Aerospace Corporation last May. Hedrick and his son Karl (now working for a Ph.D at Stanford University) are nationally ranked in the U.S. Lawn Tennis Association father-son ratings.

Grant Hedrick came to Grumman in 1943 as a stress analyst, following a hot and demanding assignment in Egypt, first as structural engineer for a big private engineering firm and then for the U.S. Army Engineering Department.

By October of 1946 he had risen to chief of Structures with Grumman, and he continued in that capacity for 11 years. He was chief technical engineer from 1957 to 1963, when he was elected Vice President. He has made significant contributions in the field of structural design.

Hedrick is a registered New York Professional Engineer, with a B.S. in civil engineering from the University of Arkansas and a graduate degree in civil engineering from Princeton. For his engineering achievements, he was named to the University of Arkansas "Hall of Fame for Distinguished Arkansas Engineers." He has received numerous other awards, including the 1967 ASME "Spirit of St. Louis Award."

One of his special interests is balanced, sound education for young student engineers, and to this end he maintains personal contacts and gives lectures in colleges and universities.

He and his wife, Shirley, live in Freeport. Son Ira Grant III (Bing) is an engineer for McDonnell-Douglas, working on the DC-10 and heading toward a Ph.D. Karl, who played on the tennis team when he worked at Grumman last summer, is doing his doctoral thesis on optimal control theory.

Many activities

His new role of Senior Vice President adds one more executive function to a towering list of activities for Bill Zarkowsky. In 1964 he was elected Vice President, and in May of '69 he was elected an Aerospace Director.

Zarkowsky's rise within the Company began from a $14-a-week summer job in the stockroom when he was still an engineering student at New York University. That was in the depression, in 1937.

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After graduation, in 1939, he worked first in the shop and on the flight line, and then in Engineering, where he held positions in Structural Design, Systems, Aerodynamics, and Stress. During most of this time he concentrated on power plant installation and propulsion design, his work covering a broad range of technical and experimental aircraft effort, and design and production engineering. He also participated in development of the Rigel Missile.

Zarkowsky became associate to the chief engineer in 1956, and in 1957 he was chosen to be a Sloan Fellow—the first in the Company. Today he is Vice President and national chairman of the Sloan Fellowship Program at M.I.T.

After his return to Grumman with a Master's in Industrial Management, he was appointed Program manager of the W-2F, since redesignated E-2A. From 1962 to 1964 he was director of Program Management for military aircraft and unmanned space programs, and thereafter, upon be-

Joe Gavin

Grant Hedrick

Bill Zarkowsky

Alex Alexandrovich

Tom Johnson

John O'Brien

George Skurla

Ralph Tripp

ing elected a Vice President, became E-2A director again. He has since been placed in charge of all DOD aircraft.

Gardening, sailing, photography, Boy Scouts are some of his activities. He and his wife, Eleanor, have four sons and a daughter, ages 11 to 21. They live in Huntington.

Technical know-how

Joining the ranks as a Vice President in the Grumman Aerospace Corporation is Alex Alexandrovich, deputy director of Technical Operations under Grant Hedrick.

For about 5½ years, Alexandrovich has been director of Systems Technology, responsible for the integration of systems in all Grumman products. He joined the Company in 1963 as Hedrick's assistant after an extensive engineering and management background in flight control and advanced navigation systems. He worked at General Electric for some 16 years and was manager of the Mark 84 Polaris fire control system.

He is a graduate of North Carolina State University and holds a Master's degree from Union College. He and his wife, Pauline, have a son, 17, and two daughters, 14 and nine. They reside in Syosset.

Long manufacturing career

Tom W. Johnson is director of Product Manufacturing, a position he took late last year after having been deputy director for the year before that.

Johnson joined Grumman as director of Production in 1967 with a background of more than 20 years' experience in manufacturing. He began his business career in 1946 with Bendix, where he rose to be senior research engineer. In 1953 he moved to New York Air Brake Company as director of Engineering, and two years later he became vice president. There he was responsible for both corporate management and corporate advance planning.

Johnson is a graduate of Newark College of Engineering, in mechanical engineering. He studied naval architecture at the U.S. Naval Academy Post Graduate School and later took his Master's in mechanical engineering at Stevens Institute of Technology.

He and his wife, Louise, live in Huntington. They have two daughters, Donna and Linda, who are both in college. Son Thomas is a Navy aviation ordnanceman.

Administrative VP

John O'Brien, named Administrative Vice President, has been director of Resources since last year. He first joined Grumman in 1953 following a three-year Army tour as a first lieutenant in the Signal Corps. As a member of the Flight Test Department, he assisted in the development and test of the F9F-8 Cougar and later photographic and trainer models of the F9F-8. He was named Flight Test project engineer on the E-2A Hawkeye before transferring to Contracts in late 1960.

He continued working on the E-2A Program as Contracts administrator, was appointed business manager on the program, and eventually served in that capacity for all aircraft programs. In January 1965 he was named assistant director of Contracts for aircraft, and in 1966, director of Contracts.

O'Brien completed the Program for Senior Executives at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and is a graduate of the State University Agricultural and Technical Institute at Farmingdale.

John lives in Centerport with his wife, Jean, and their two children.

Man at the Cape

George Skurla has been Grumman's manager of Operations at the Kennedy Space Center since 1966. His Company career spans more than 25 years, starting with a job on the shop floor as an apprentice engineer, although he held a degree in aeronautical engineering.

He moved up the ladder steadily in a variety of positions—liaison engineer, stress analyst, and positions in Research and Structural Flight Test, which he headed. After working on the F6F and F11F series, he did a tour as chief engineer of Aerobilt Bodies, a Grumman subsidiary.

In 1960 he returned to Grumman Aircraft as manager of commercial products in Business Development. He went back to Flight Test as assistant director; three years later he was tapped for KSC.

Skurla, his wife, Marie, and their four sons live in Satellite Beach, Florida.

On top of LM

Dr. Ralph Tripp has been Lunar Module Program director for a year, after having served as Orbiting Astronomical Observatory (OAO) Program director since 1962.

Dr. Tripp came to Grumman in 1942 and was in charge of Structural Flight Testing. Five years later, he headed the Engineering Research Department, and in 1950, he was in charge of all test instrumentation, including procurement, design, installation, calibration, maintenance, and operation.

He became technical director of Flight Test in 1957 and, from 1958 to 1962, assistant director of the department. He has held many offices in the Instrument Society of America and is presently an associate fellow in the Institute of Aeronautical Sciences.

Tripp is a graduate of Drake University, and he holds a Master's and a Doctorate in applied mathematics and mechanics from Iowa State College.

He and his wife, LaVone, and two of their daughters live in Huntington. A third daughter is married and living in Philadelphia.